

1990-91

**EMPLOYMENT
INJURIES
QUEENSLAND**

Catalogue No. 6301.3

EMPLOYMENT INJURIES, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

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NOTES

The statistics in this publication were derived from reports of compensative accidents made available to the ABS by the Workers' Compensation Board of Queensland and the Queensland Police Department. Explanatory Notes are located at the back of this publication.

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INQUIRIES

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- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Brisbane (07) 222 6351 or any ABS State office.

MAIN FEATURES

Note: Care should be exercised in comparing data for 1990-91 with those of previous years as fluctuations may be due to some extent to different collection methodologies. See explanatory notes, paragraphs 21 to 24.

- During 1990-91 a total of 50,209 employment injuries were recorded in Queensland comprising 45,108 occupational injuries, 1,974 occupational diseases, 2,964 commuting injuries and 163 recess injuries. The total employment injuries recorded represents a rate of 50 per 1,000 persons employed in those industries.
- Temporary disability arising out of employment injuries accounted for a total of 1.1 million days lost. Males accounted for 77.0 per cent of this total.
- During 1990-91 a total of 45,108 occupational injuries were recorded, which comprised 49 fatal, 670 permanent disability and 44,389 temporary disability.
- Males accounted for 80.5 per cent of all occupational injuries.
- The manufacturing industry recorded 31.1 per cent of all occupational injuries, while wholesale and retail trade, community services industries and construction recorded 15.1 per cent, 13.9 per cent and 9.3 per cent, respectively.
- A total of 1,974 occupational diseases were recorded during 1990-91 affecting 1,512 males and 462 females. Of this total, 24 were fatal, 720 were permanently disabled and 1,230 were temporarily disabled.
- Deafness and disease of the ear accounted for 704 cases which was 35.7 per cent of total occupational diseases.
- The industry with most recorded occupational diseases was the manufacturing industry which incurred a total of 770 cases or 39.0 per cent of total occupational diseases.

DIAGRAM 1 - EMPLOYMENT INJURIES: AVERAGE DAYS LOST BY SELECTED INDUSTRIES, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

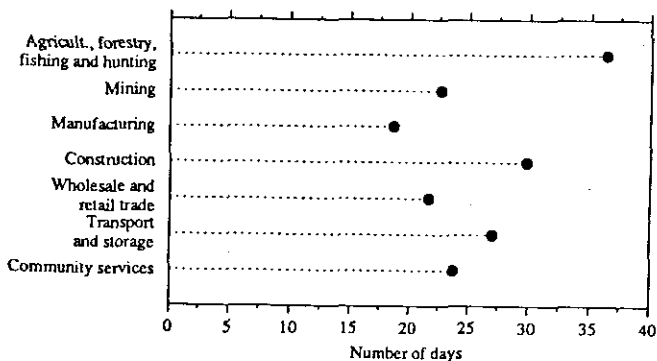


DIAGRAM 2 - EMPLOYMENT INJURIES: INCIDENCE RATES BY SELECTED INDUSTRIES, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

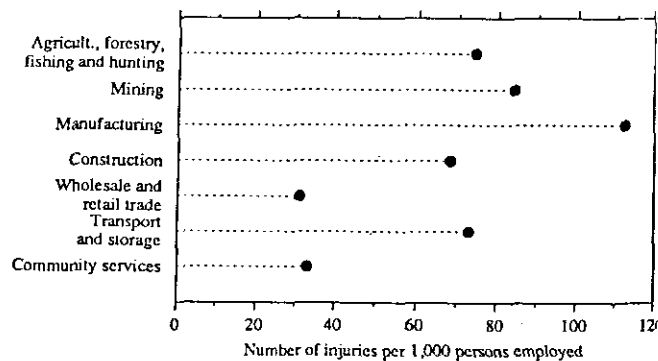


TABLE 1 — EMPLOYMENT INJURIES: INDUSTRY BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT INJURY, SEX AND INCIDENCE, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Industry division and selected subdivisions	Type of employment injury					Sex		Incidence (a)
	Occupational		Commuting injury	Recess injury	Total	Males	Females	
	Injury	Disease						
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	2,133	65	51	5	2,254	1,991	263	74
Agriculture	1,775	43	40	4	1,862	1,615	247	73
Mining	1,810	100	63	6	1,979	1,942	37	84
Coal	1,142	65	14	3	1,224	1,217	7	117
Manufacturing	14,018	770	625	31	15,444	13,811	1,633	112
Meat products	2,838	284	72	6	3,200	2,651	549	248
Raw sugar	603	64	13	—	680	670	10	n.a.
Log sawmilling	553	19	13	—	585	559	26	n.a.
Furniture	595	6	38	3	642	595	47	n.a.
Cement and concrete products	348	11	22	1	382	372	10	100
Basic iron and steel	654	24	21	—	699	693	6	206
Structural metal products	957	23	34	4	1,018	978	40	125
Sheet metal products	365	15	16	1	397	381	16	125
Other fabricated metal products	811	27	33	1	872	819	53	135
Motor vehicles and parts	462	17	24	—	503	488	15	119
Other transport equipment	1,104	77	37	3	1,221	1,218	3	215
Industrial machinery and equipment	650	14	25	—	689	683	6	132
Electricity, gas and water	561	53	52	3	669	652	17	54
Electricity	262	21	31	—	314	305	9	38
Construction	4,185	109	201	6	4,501	4,415	86	68
Building construction	1,187	31	57	3	1,278	1,235	43	68
Non-building construction	797	29	42	—	868	846	22	89
Concreting, bricklaying and tiling trades	296	9	18	—	323	319	4	55
Other special trades	1,905	40	84	3	2,032	2,015	17	65
Wholesale and retail trade	6,806	188	476	30	7,500	5,463	2,037	31
Builders hardware dealers	538	6	32	2	578	536	42	40
Machinery and equipment wholesalers	753	29	44	4	830	784	46	38
New motor vehicle dealers	816	13	57	3	889	809	80	n.a.
Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists	1,189	23	88	4	1,304	629	675	n.a.
Transport and storage	3,484	209	221	11	3,925	3,713	212	73
Road freight transport	1,190	20	32	1	1,243	1,214	29	81
Rail transport	1,208	114	97	6	1,425	1,385	40	77
Communication	4	—	—	—	4	2	2	n.a.
Finance, property and business services	1,241	57	220	17	1,535	997	538	15
Public administration and defence	1,726	66	111	10	1,913	1,754	159	48
Local government administration	1,545	54	71	10	1,680	1,591	89	n.a.
Community services	6,291	277	698	37	7,303	3,137	4,166	33
Hospitals (except psychiatric)	1,621	87	253	11	1,972	591	1,381	n.a.
Nursing homes	992	21	58	2	1,073	127	946	n.a.
School education	766	41	47	5	859	250	609	13
Welfare and religious institutions	518	23	48	3	592	217	375	25
Recreation, personal and other services	2,803	77	239	7	3,126	1,714	1,412	37
Sport and recreation	456	4	25	1	486	346	140	47
Restaurants, hotels and accommodation	1,836	44	166	5	2,051	989	1,062	43
Non-classifiable economic units	46	3	7	—	56	45	11	n.a.
Total	45,108	1,974	2,964	163	50,209	39,636	10,573	50
Males	36,297	1,512	1,736	91	39,636	39,636	—	69
Females	8,811	462	1,228	72	10,573	—	10,573	24

(a) Number of injuries per 1,000 persons employed in that industry.

TABLE 2 — EMPLOYMENT INJURIES: INDUSTRY BY EXTENT OF DISABILITY, DURATION OF TEMPORARY DISABILITY AND DAYS LOST, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Industry division and selected subdivisions	Extent of disability			Total	Duration of temporary disability			Days lost (a)	
	Fatal	Permanent	Temporary		1-6 days	1-4 weeks	Over 1 month	Total	Average
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	9	67	2,178	2,254	445	964	769	79,148	36.3
Agriculture	9	57	1,796	1,862	347	786	663	66,562	37.1
Mining	7	102	1,870	1,979	875	669	326	42,339	22.6
Coal	2	61	1,161	1,224	602	408	151	19,996	17.2
Manufacturing	19	577	14,848	15,444	7,540	5,168	2,140	275,702	18.6
Meat products	2	80	3,118	3,200	1,421	1,376	321	47,353	15.2
Raw sugar	1	66	613	680	306	210	97	14,768	24.1
Log sawmilling	4	24	557	585	211	225	121	13,896	24.9
Furniture	—	23	619	642	300	214	105	13,275	21.4
Cement and concrete products	1	12	369	382	154	140	75	8,883	24.1
Basic iron and steel	1	24	674	699	414	183	77	10,886	16.2
Structural metal products	1	32	985	1,018	578	280	127	16,415	16.7
Sheet metal products	—	19	378	397	226	111	41	5,458	14.4
Other fabricated metal products	1	38	833	872	460	249	124	16,152	19.4
Motor vehicles and parts	—	17	486	503	320	115	51	6,013	12.4
Other transport equipment	2	70	1,149	1,221	544	430	175	20,899	18.2
Industrial machinery and equipment	2	16	671	689	416	166	89	10,749	16.0
Electricity, gas and water	1	36	632	669	277	228	127	13,626	21.6
Electricity	—	12	302	314	136	110	56	5,488	18.2
Construction	10	110	4,381	4,501	1,731	1,584	1,066	130,543	29.8
Building construction	1	39	1,238	1,278	495	457	286	35,476	28.7
Non-building construction	3	24	841	868	345	327	169	20,829	24.8
Concreting, bricklaying and tiling trades	1	7	315	323	92	119	104	12,935	41.1
Other special trades	5	40	1,987	2,032	799	681	507	61,303	30.9
Wholesale and retail trade	15	129	7,356	7,500	3,498	2,576	1,282	159,217	21.6
Builders hardware dealers	1	14	563	578	236	199	128	15,172	26.9
Machinery and equipment wholesalers	2	24	804	830	444	229	131	16,489	20.5
New motor vehicle dealers	2	18	869	889	427	300	142	19,123	22.0
Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists	5	15	1,284	1,304	651	468	165	22,576	17.6
Transport and storage	15	192	3,718	3,925	1,409	1,464	845	100,548	27.0
Road freight transport	6	20	1,217	1,243	456	455	306	36,145	29.7
Rail transport	3	105	1,317	1,425	445	588	284	34,305	26.0
Communication	—	1	3	4	1	2	—	24	8.0
Finance, property and business services	7	31	1,497	1,535	659	504	334	38,687	25.8
Public administration and defence	3	42	1,868	1,913	812	706	350	41,404	22.2
Local government administration	2	39	1,639	1,680	701	625	313	37,102	22.6
Community services	8	79	7,216	7,303	3,189	2,679	1,348	171,122	23.7
Hospitals (except psychiatric)	1	13	1,958	1,972	896	700	362	47,356	24.2
Nursing homes	—	3	1,070	1,073	374	444	252	34,618	32.4
School education	—	8	851	859	385	323	143	18,002	21.2
Welfare and religious institutions	2	11	579	592	242	235	102	13,609	23.5
Recreation, personal and other services	4	47	3,075	3,126	1,225	1,227	623	75,725	24.6
Sport and recreation	1	8	477	486	148	203	126	13,657	28.6
Restaurants, hotels and accommodation	2	26	2,023	2,051	826	832	365	45,796	22.6
Non-classifiable economic units	—	3	53	56	16	20	17	2,014	38.0
Total	98	1,416	48,695	50,209	21,677	17,791	9,227	1,130,099	23.2
Males	89	1,304	38,243	39,636	17,036	13,937	7,270	870,131	22.8
Females	9	112	10,452	10,573	4,641	3,854	1,957	259,968	24.9

(a) Period absent from work because of temporary disability.

TABLE 3 — EMPLOYMENT INJURIES: OCCUPATION BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT INJURY, EXTENT OF DISABILITY, SEX AND INCIDENCE, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Major occupation group and selected minor groups	Type of employment injury					Extent of disability			Sex		Incidence (a)
	Occupational		Commuting injury	Recess injury	Total	Fatal	Permanent	Temporary	Males	Females	
	Injury	Disease									
Managers and administrators	779	38	72	5	894	5	30	859	661	233	15
Professionals	830	69	187	13	1,099	6	23	1,070	550	549	9
School teachers	403	31	86	7	527	—	7	520	169	358	14
Para-professionals	2,007	128	248	12	2,395	7	64	2,324	1,261	1,134	40
Registered nurses	709	38	127	5	879	—	7	872	81	798	37
Tradespersons	12,157	472	528	16	13,173	14	443	12,716	12,633	540	88
Metal fitters and machinists	2,330	107	99	3	2,539	2	92	2,445	2,500	39	163
Sheetmetal tradespersons	534	11	15	3	563	—	15	548	562	1	156
Structural steel, boilermaking and welding tradespersons	1,945	81	57	1	2,084	2	94	1,988	2,075	9	199
Electrical mechanics	525	12	30	—	567	1	8	558	566	1	47
Carpenters and joiners	1,131	42	30	3	1,206	2	46	1,158	1,201	5	95
Plumbers	467	11	21	—	499	—	14	485	498	1	85
Vehicle tradespersons	1,190	35	54	3	1,282	2	42	1,238	1,271	11	64
Meat tradespersons	718	40	10	—	768	—	25	743	763	5	172
Cooks	588	13	45	2	648	1	13	634	353	295	72
Clerks	876	55	333	21	1,285	4	15	1,266	400	885	8
Salespersons and personal service workers	2,984	102	421	22	3,529	8	27	3,494	1,184	2,345	19
Sales assistants	1,499	39	206	12	1,756	5	14	1,737	621	1,135	20
Plant and machine operators and drivers	5,364	238	231	17	5,850	25	223	5,602	5,494	356	74
Truck drivers	2,174	55	61	2	2,292	11	53	2,228	2,237	55	89
Excavating and earthmoving plant operators	835	57	36	6	934	7	51	876	925	9	107
Forklift and related drivers	310	4	14	—	328	—	7	321	324	4	97
Stationary plant operators	623	33	27	2	685	2	35	648	680	5	69
Machine operators	817	36	47	4	904	2	37	865	667	237	53
Labourers and related workers	18,928	792	872	53	20,645	28	572	20,045	16,462	4,183	109
Trades assistants and factory hands	8,526	439	367	27	9,359	11	281	9,067	8,088	1,271	220
Farmhands and assistants	1,443	32	25	4	1,504	3	40	1,461	1,294	210	85
Cleaners	1,509	58	138	2	1,707	1	17	1,689	513	1,194	52
Construction and mining labourers	2,637	118	84	7	2,846	9	115	2,722	2,825	21	118
Storemen/women	1,508	33	86	5	1,632	1	23	1,608	1,379	253	99
Freight and furniture handlers	438	34	15	1	488	—	39	449	470	18	193
Kitchenhands	656	21	36	3	716	—	12	704	262	454	46
Ward helpers	697	18	33	2	750	—	1	749	272	478	129
Not stated	1,183	80	72	4	1,339	1	19	1,319	991	348	n.a.
Total	45,108	1,974	2,964	163	50,209	98	1,416	48,695	39,636	10,573	50
Males	36,297	1,512	1,736	91	39,636	89	1,304	38,243	39,636	—	69
Females	8,811	462	1,228	72	10,573	9	112	10,452	—	10,573	24

(a) Number of injuries per 1,000 persons employed in that occupation.

TABLE 4 — EMPLOYMENT INJURIES: STATISTICAL DIVISION AND SELECTED CITIES BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT INJURY, EXTENT OF DISABILITY, SEX AND DAYS LOST, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Statistical Division and selected Cities (a)	Type of employment injury					Extent of disability			Sex		Days lost (b)
	Occupational		Commuting Injury	Recess Injury	Total	Fatal	Permanent	Temporary	Males	Females	
	Injury	Disease									
Brisbane	19,860	742	1,562	75	22,239	27	515	21,697	16,889	5,350	463,165
Brisbane	14,888	553	1,112	56	16,609	21	372	16,216	12,507	4,102	343,603
Ipswich	1,364	100	82	2	1,548	—	65	1,483	1,219	329	27,499
Logan	1,060	19	129	4	1,212	2	21	1,189	915	297	29,316
Redcliffe	285	5	41	3	334	—	4	330	192	142	9,641
Moreton	5,150	145	359	23	5,677	17	99	5,561	4,361	1,316	142,653
Gold Coast	2,162	46	159	11	2,378	4	25	2,349	1,753	625	56,205
Caloundra	345	8	22	1	376	1	10	365	301	75	10,104
Wide Bay-Burnett	2,231	65	84	8	2,388	3	51	2,334	1,996	392	56,569
Bundaberg	647	10	31	4	692	—	11	681	554	138	15,920
Gympie	224	5	6	2	237	1	7	229	184	53	5,138
Hervey Bay	169	4	5	—	178	—	3	175	141	37	5,138
Maryborough	481	8	13	1	503	—	10	493	444	59	9,167
Darling Downs	2,878	100	98	10	3,086	10	59	3,017	2,503	583	58,060
Toowoomba	1,474	57	61	4	1,596	3	20	1,573	1,221	375	26,548
Warwick	245	4	5	1	255	1	3	251	207	48	4,524
South-West	409	13	7	2	431	1	13	417	388	43	16,554
Fitzroy	2,971	163	147	7	3,288	8	100	3,180	2,862	426	74,525
Rockhampton	1,055	78	58	1	1,192	1	36	1,155	989	203	28,272
Gladstone	399	18	39	1	457	2	11	444	415	42	9,907
Central-West	193	18	5	—	216	1	5	210	197	19	8,845
Mackay	2,088	73	82	9	2,252	3	45	2,204	1,962	290	50,703
Mackay	951	38	45	5	1,039	1	10	1,028	874	165	23,093
Northern	2,290	80	105	5	2,480	9	55	2,416	2,039	441	56,172
Townsville	1,210	40	77	2	1,329	4	33	1,292	1,045	284	29,130
Thuringowa	145	2	11	1	159	1	5	153	132	27	4,500
Far North	1,953	138	119	7	2,217	2	127	2,088	1,808	409	53,975
Cairns	741	48	62	3	854	—	40	814	649	205	19,255
North-West	525	34	34	4	597	5	36	556	534	63	18,680
Mount Isa	378	28	32	3	441	4	31	406	395	46	13,630
Interstate, overseas and unknown	4,560	403	362	13	5,338	12	311	5,015	4,097	1,241	130,198
Total	45,108	1,974	2,964	163	50,209	98	1,416	48,695	39,636	10,573	1,130,099

(a) Including cities with a population of 10,000 or more. (b) Period absent from work because of temporary disability.

TABLE 5 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY AGENCY OF ACCIDENT AND SEX, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

TABLE 5 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY AGENCY OF ACCIDENT AND SEX, QUEBEC, 1971													
Type of accident	Agency of accident										Total	Sex	
	Metal and wood working machines	Other machines	Lifting equipment	Installed equipment	Hand tools and mobile equipment	Means of transport	Chemicals, other materials and substances	Indoor working environment	Outdoor and underground working environment	Other agencies		Males	Females
Fall of person	3	131	84	6	845	612	267	4,127	3,049	372	9,496	7,263	2,233
From height	1	114	64	1	759	497	166	645	379	355	2,981	2,551	430
On same level	2	17	20	5	86	115	101	3,482	2,670	17	6,515	4,712	1,803
Struck by falling object(s)	10	56	30	38	480	22	1,696	6	46	44	2,428	2,095	333
Stepping on, striking against or struck by object	586	552	225	87	4,378	353	5,686	46	279	1,005	13,197	11,504	1,693
Stepping on object	—	—	—	—	3	1	109	1	5	7	126	115	11
Striking against object(s)	290	395	78	37	3,192	154	2,391	39	112	199	6,887	5,784	1,103
Struck by object	296	157	147	50	1,183	198	3,186	6	162	799	6,184	5,605	579
Caught in or between object(s)	145	408	205	25	671	155	876	5	32	63	2,585	2,213	372
Overexertion or physical stress	63	411	111	133	2,615	439	6,025	107	138	4,080	14,122	10,641	3,481
In lifting or carrying object(s)	21	173	24	96	1,174	83	4,519	6	53	1,045	7,194	5,488	1,706
In other handling of object(s)	41	230	87	35	1,431	343	1,495	18	77	680	4,437	3,388	1,049
Where object(s) not being handled	1	8	—	2	10	13	11	83	8	2,355	2,491	1,765	726
Exposure or contact with extreme temperature	3	31	—	10	104	2	996	2	12	5	1,165	875	290
Contact with electric current	—	—	—	65	2	—	—	—	1	—	68	57	11
Exposure to harmful substance or radiation	—	1	—	8	294	—	340	2	2	—	647	564	83
Explosion and implosion	—	5	—	21	10	—	56	—	—	2	94	83	11
Friction contact	—	—	—	1	7	—	10	1	—	38	57	52	5
Vehicle accident	—	8	—	—	—	741	—	—	14	16	779	592	187
Other accidents	—	3	—	1	5	4	5	22	16	414	470	358	112
Total	810	1,606	655	395	9,411	2,328	15,957	4,318	3,589	6,039	45,108	36,297	8,811
Males	794	1,319	610	349	7,780	1,913	13,675	2,693	3,178	3,986	36,297	36,297	—
Females	16	287	45	46	1,631	415	2,282	1,625	411	2,053	8,811	—	8,811

TABLE 6 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY NATURE OF INJURY AND SEX, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Type of accident	Nature of injury										Sex	
	Fractures, dislocations	Sprains, strains	Internal injuries	Amputations, enucleations	Lacerations, open wounds	Super- ficial injuries	Contusions, bruises	Burns, scalds	Other injuries	Total	Males	Females
Fall of person	1,619	5,707	63	4	580	65	1,210	53	195	9,496	7,263	2,233
From height	707	1,502	28	3	170	28	434	6	103	2,981	2,551	430
On same level	912	4,205	35	1	410	37	776	47	92	6,515	4,712	1,803
Struck by falling object(s)	526	414	22	13	536	28	852	20	17	2,428	2,095	333
Stepping on, striking against or struck by object	1,053	1,063	95	117	6,432	2,474	1,759	49	155	13,197	11,504	1,693
Stepping on object	4	8	—	—	102	5	7	—	—	126	115	11
Striking against object(s)	387	512	47	92	4,877	129	798	10	35	6,887	5,784	1,103
Struck by object	662	543	48	25	1,453	2,340	954	39	120	6,184	5,605	579
Caught in or between object(s)	533	260	1	177	713	18	858	11	14	2,585	2,213	372
Overexertion or physical stress	145	13,334	592	—	—	—	1	1	49	14,122	10,641	3,481
In lifting or carrying object(s)	56	6,679	441	—	—	—	—	—	18	7,194	5,488	1,706
In other handling of object(s)	77	4,219	121	—	—	—	1	1	18	4,437	3,388	1,049
Where object(s) not being handled	12	2,436	30	—	—	—	—	—	13	2,491	1,765	726
Exposure or contact with extreme temperature	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1,162	2	1,165	875	290
Contact with electric current	1	5	—	—	1	—	1	53	7	68	57	11
Exposure to harmful substance or radiation	—	1	—	—	—	17	—	506	123	647	564	83
Explosion and implosion	4	2	—	—	16	9	3	53	7	94	83	11
Friction contact	—	2	—	—	13	25	7	4	6	57	52	5
Vehicle accident	133	277	8	2	42	17	128	2	170	779	592	187
Other accidents	22	101	14	3	99	23	28	7	173	470	358	112
Total	4,036	21,167	795	316	8,432	2,676	4,847	1,921	918	45,108	36,297	8,811
Males	3,418	15,984	725	280	7,266	2,526	3,885	1,540	673	36,297	36,297	—
Females	618	5,183	70	36	1,166	150	962	381	245	8,811	—	8,811

TABLE 7 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: NATURE OF INJURY BY BODILY LOCATION OF INJURY AND SEX, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

TABLE 7 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: NATURE OF INJURY BY BODILY LOCATION OF INJURY													
Nature of injury	Bodily location of injury										Total	Sex	
	Head	Eyes	Neck	Trunk		Upper limb		Lower limb		Other and multiple locations			
				Back	Other	Fingers and hand	Other	Hip to ankle	Other				
Fractures, dislocations	174	1	16	147	293	1,230	917	434	802	22	4,036	3,418	618
Sprains, strains	—	—	1,101	10,635	742	578	3,296	3,914	759	142	21,167	15,984	5,183
Internal injuries	155	—	—	1	638	—	—	—	—	1	795	725	70
Amputations, enucleations	—	—	—	—	—	300	3	2	11	—	316	280	36
Lacerations, open wounds	408	280	11	15	45	5,343	712	676	896	46	8,432	7,266	1,166
Superficial injuries	20	2,283	—	3	10	127	48	72	82	31	2,676	2,526	150
Contusions, bruising	184	38	32	377	344	1,468	575	735	966	128	4,847	3,885	962
Burns, scalds	80	542	13	14	38	436	248	113	319	118	1,921	1,540	381
Other injuries	93	16	17	28	25	57	56	33	38	555	918	673	245
Total	1,114	3,160	1,190	11,220	2,135	9,539	5,855	5,979	3,873	1,043	45,108	36,297	8,811
Males	897	2,988	806	8,484	1,875	8,050	4,370	4,876	3,182	769	36,297	36,297	—
Females	217	172	384	2,736	260	1,489	1,485	1,103	691	274	8,811	—	8,811

TABLE 8 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: AGE BY EXTENT OF DISABILITY, DURATION OF TEMPORARY DISABILITY AND SEX, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Age group (years)	Extent of disability				Duration of temporary disability			Sex		Days lost (a)	
	Fatal	Permanent	Temporary	Total	1-6 days	1-4 weeks	Over 1 month	Males	Females	Total	Average
Under 20	4	57	5,137	5,198	2,725	1,849	563	4,214	984	71,083	13.8
20 - 24	6	101	7,667	7,774	3,991	2,705	971	6,345	1,429	125,444	16.4
25 - 29	6	92	7,163	7,261	3,572	2,485	1,106	6,139	1,122	140,983	19.7
30 - 34	6	74	6,010	6,090	2,819	2,124	1,067	5,143	947	128,450	21.4
35 - 39	7	61	5,043	5,111	2,171	1,848	1,024	4,057	1,054	128,071	25.4
40 - 44	7	74	4,712	4,793	1,913	1,736	1,063	3,518	1,275	129,845	27.6
45 - 49	3	64	3,413	3,480	1,283	1,298	832	2,491	989	99,626	29.2
50 - 54	2	54	2,636	2,692	866	1,101	669	2,064	628	78,826	29.9
55 - 59	5	56	1,640	1,701	499	679	462	1,412	289	55,037	33.6
60 - 64	2	32	941	975	234	394	313	884	91	36,419	38.7
65 and over	1	5	27	33	8	6	13	30	3	1,523	56.4
Total	49	670	44,389	45,108	20,081	16,225	8,083	36,297	8,811	995,307	22.4
Males	47	584	35,666	36,297	16,170	12,957	6,539	36,297	—	787,141	22.1
Females	2	86	8,723	8,811	3,911	3,268	1,544	—	8,811	208,166	23.9

(a) Period absent from work because of temporary disability.

TABLE 9 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: TIME OF DAY BY DAY OF WEEK ON WHICH ACCIDENT OCCURRED AND SEX, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Time of day	Day of week							Sex		
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Total	Males	Females
12.30 a.m. to 05.29 a.m.	104	184	178	194	154	161	133	1,108	919	189
05.30 a.m. to 06.29 a.m.	56	273	166	175	171	149	77	1,067	805	262
06.30 a.m. to 07.29 a.m.	88	691	486	425	446	355	122	2,613	2,145	468
07.30 a.m. to 08.29 a.m.	82	1,074	965	806	754	540	154	4,375	3,678	697
08.30 a.m. to 09.29 a.m.	119	1,080	954	822	799	612	193	4,579	3,760	819
09.30 a.m. to 10.29 a.m.	114	1,023	1,036	957	868	690	242	4,930	4,087	843
10.30 a.m. to 11.29 a.m.	150	1,003	1,063	945	951	730	225	5,067	4,173	894
11.30 a.m. to 12.29 p.m.	81	450	465	470	436	386	138	2,426	1,847	579
12.30 p.m. to 01.29 p.m.	85	580	673	621	574	476	126	3,135	2,531	604
01.30 p.m. to 02.29 p.m.	99	799	891	879	795	651	145	4,259	3,554	705
02.30 p.m. to 03.29 p.m.	98	680	701	711	595	547	115	3,447	2,855	592
03.30 p.m. to 04.29 p.m.	74	415	443	419	359	316	101	2,127	1,626	501
04.30 p.m. to 05.29 p.m.	63	243	202	201	207	178	84	1,178	831	347
05.30 p.m. to 06.29 p.m.	53	120	118	122	113	92	50	668	447	221
06.30 p.m. to 07.29 p.m.	52	117	120	123	118	77	53	660	467	193
07.30 p.m. to 12.29 a.m.	133	256	264	260	267	203	142	1,525	1,093	432
Not stated	60	395	379	362	326	323	99	1,944	1,479	465
Total	1,511	9,383	9,104	8,492	7,933	6,486	2,199	45,108	36,297	8,811
Males	1,045	7,647	7,560	6,948	6,353	5,159	1,585	36,297	36,297	—
Females	466	1,736	1,544	1,544	1,580	1,327	614	8,811	—	8,811

TABLE 10 — OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES: EXTENT OF DISABILITY BY MONTH OF OCCURRENCE, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Extent of disability	1990						1991						Total
	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	
Fatal	7	4	3	6	5	1	2	3	7	4	4	3	49
Permanent	71	80	59	74	61	66	49	52	50	50	29	29	670
Temporary	4,243	4,004	3,685	4,265	4,171	2,896	3,211	3,579	3,589	3,563	3,844	3,339	44,389
Total	4,321	4,088	3,747	4,345	4,237	2,963	3,262	3,634	3,646	3,617	3,877	3,371	45,108
Males	3,464	3,355	3,069	3,516	3,470	2,376	2,590	2,905	2,915	2,885	3,102	2,650	36,297
Females	857	733	678	829	767	587	672	729	731	732	775	721	8,811

TABLE 11 — OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES: NATURE OF DISEASE BY EXTENT OF DISABILITY, DURATION OF TEMPORARY DISABILITY, SEX AND DAYS LOST, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Nature of disease	Extent of disability				Duration of temporary disability			Sex		Days lost (a)	
	Fatal	Permanent	Temporary	Total	1-6 days	1-4 weeks	Over 1 month	Males	Females	Total	Average
Infective and parasitic	—	—	180	180	46	108	26	123	57	3,465	19.3
Q Fever	—	—	92	92	21	58	13	82	10	1,676	18.2
Other	—	—	88	88	25	50	13	41	47	1,789	20.3
Nervous system and sense organs	—	702	134	836	37	31	66	773	63	5,788	43.2
Deafness and ear	—	698	6	704	1	4	1	694	10	109	18.2
Carpal tunnel syndrome	—	4	99	103	11	24	64	55	48	5,517	55.7
Other including eye	—	—	29	29	25	3	1	24	5	162	5.6
Circulatory system	24	1	32	57	1	4	27	54	3	2,908	90.9
Respiratory system	—	1	25	26	7	9	9	14	12	1,249	50.0
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	—	—	265	265	108	129	28	183	82	4,245	16.0
Eczema and dermatitis	—	—	265	265	108	129	28	183	82	4,245	16.0
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	—	16	431	447	107	206	118	259	188	14,883	34.5
Tenosynovitis	—	1	72	73	16	34	22	43	30	2,225	30.9
Tendonitis	—	15	345	360	89	166	90	204	156	11,799	34.2
Other	—	—	14	14	2	6	6	12	2	859	61.4
Other diseases	—	—	163	163	34	52	77	106	57	9,011	55.3
Total	24	720	1,230	1,974	340	539	351	1,512	462	41,549	33.8
Males	23	700	789	1,512	221	358	210	1,512	—	25,234	32.0
Females	1	20	441	462	119	181	141	—	462	16,315	37.0

(a) Period absent from work because of temporary disability.

TABLE 12 — OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES: AGE BY EXTENT OF DISABILITY, DURATION OF TEMPORARY DISABILITY, SEX AND DAYS LOST, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91

Age group (years)	Extent of disability				Duration of temporary disability			Sex		Days lost (a)	
	Fatal	Permanent	Temporary	Total	1-6 days	1-4 weeks	Over 1 month	Males	Females	Total	Average
Under 20	—	1	124	125	51	57	16	67	58	2,102	17.0
20-24	—	6	197	203	58	100	39	125	78	4,120	20.9
25-29	—	15	187	203	50	96	41	145	58	5,282	28.2
30-34	1	28	148	177	50	62	36	133	44	4,274	28.9
35-39	1	60	156	219	49	61	46	156	63	5,785	37.1
40-44	3	77	152	229	31	57	64	159	70	7,019	46.2
45-49	—	106	113	223	23	41	49	176	47	5,322	47.1
50-54	4	113	76	193	14	30	32	167	26	3,556	46.8
55-59	4	158	51	217	10	26	15	204	13	1,894	37.1
60-64	8	152	26	181	4	9	13	176	5	2,195	84.4
65 and over	3	4	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Total	24	720	1,230	1,974	340	539	351	1,512	462	41,549	33.8
Males	23	700	789	1,512	221	358	210	1,512	—	25,234	32.0
Females	1	20	441	462	119	181	141	—	462	16,315	37.0

(a) Period absent from work because of temporary disability.

TABLE 13 — RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS: INCIDENCE BY SELECTED INDUSTRY, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91
(per cent)

Industry		Industry	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	4.9	Wholesale and retail trade — <i>continued</i>	
Agriculture	5.4	Machinery and equipment wholesalers	6.0
Mining	5.7	New motor vehicle dealers	n.a.
Coal	9.2	Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists	n.a.
Manufacturing	2.0	Transport and storage	3.5
Meat products	8.2	Road freight transport	7.4
Raw sugar	n.a.	Rail transport	6.6
Log sawmilling	n.a.	Communication	n.a.
Furniture	n.a.	Finance, property and business services	2.4
Cement and concrete products	16.8	Public administration and defence	4.2
Basic iron and steel	18.0	Local government administration	n.a.
Structural metal products	10.7	Community services	1.5
Sheet metal products	18.7	Hospitals (except psychiatric)	n.a.
Other fabricated metal products	12.3	Nursing homes	n.a.
Motor vehicles and parts	15.8	School education	3.1
Other transport equipment	13.3	Welfare and religious institutions	5.8
Industrial machinery and equipment	13.9	Recreation, personal and other services	2.7
Electricity, gas and water	8.3	Sport and recreation	9.3
Electricity	10.7	Restaurants, hotels and accommodation	3.8
Construction	3.1	Non-classifiable economic units	n.a.
Building construction	6.5		
Non-building construction	9.6		
Concreting, bricklaying and tiling trades	13.0		
Other special trades	4.9		
Wholesale and retail trade	1.5	Total	0.6
Builders hardware dealers	7.6		

TABLE 14 — RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS: INCIDENCE BY SELECTED OCCUPATION, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91
(per cent)

Occupation		Occupation	
Managers and administrators	3.2	Plant and machine operators and drivers	2.7
Professionals	2.1	Truck drivers	5.4
School teachers	4.2	Excavating and earthmoving plant operators	10.4
Para-professionals	3.2	Forklift and related drivers	18.5
Registered nurses	5.6	Stationary plant operators	9.6
Tradespersons	1.8	Machine operators	6.9
Metal fitters and machinists	7.3	Labourers and related workers	1.6
Sheetmetal tradespersons	17.8	Trades assistants and factory hands	3.9
Structural steel, boilermaking and welding tradespersons	9.3	Farmhands and assistants	6.7
Electrical mechanics	8.5	Cleaners	4.6
Carpenters and joiners	8.3	Construction and mining labourers	5.6
Plumbers	13.3	Storemen/women	7.1
Vehicle tradespersons	6.3	Freight and furniture handlers	22.2
Meat tradespersons	15.7	Kitchenhands	7.3
Cooks	10.2	Ward helpers	13.3
Clerks	1.7	Not stated	n.a.
Salespersons and personal service workers	1.6		
Sales assistants	2.5	Total	0.5

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

Statistics of employment injuries shown in this publication were derived from reports of compensative accidents made available to the ABS by the Workers' Compensation Board of Queensland and the Queensland Police Department, and are compiled on the basis of the financial year in which the accident occurred.

Scope of the statistics

2. In Queensland, workers' compensation insurance is confined solely to the Workers' Compensation Board of Queensland which commenced operations on 1 July 1978. With policies issued under the *Workers' Compensation Act 1916-1988* and the *Workers' Compensation Act 1990*, employers indemnify themselves against all sums for which, in respect of injuries to workers employed, they may become legally liable by way of compensation or damages in relation to that injury. Claims made on the Workers' Compensation Board of Queensland are the main source of information on compensative employment injuries.

3. Self-employed persons are not obliged to insure, hence accidents of a number of workers in primary industry and in the professions, etc. are not recorded. Also members of the Australian Government Service, including Australia Post and Telecom Australia, are excluded by the provisions of the Act, and coverage is thereby restricted in the administrative and communications industries. Accidents of members of the Police Force, although excluded under the Act, are collected separately and are included in the tables.

4. The scope of the collection is limited to those compensated employment injuries causing death, permanent disability or temporary disability resulting in the absence of the injured person from work during the entire interval corresponding to the hours of his or her regular shift on any one or more calendar days subsequent to the date of the injury.

Definitions

5. The definitions in this publication conform closely to those recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

6. *Employment injuries* cover all injuries resulting from accidents, and all occupational diseases contracted or aggravated in the course of a worker's employment.

- (a) *Occupational injury* is an injury resulting from workplace and non-workplace accidents.
- (b) *Occupational disease* is distinguishable from an injury by accident by one or more of the following characteristics:
 - the slow and protracted nature of its cause;
 - it is ascribable to repeated or continuous action of a mechanical, physical or

chemical nature and is not the effect of a single event but of a cause acting imperceptibly and constantly;

- the uncertain time of its beginning and
- there is a possible individual pre-disposition to the development of the condition.

7. *Commuting injuries* are injuries resulting from accidents occurring while journeying to or from work while not on duty nor in a recess period.

8. *Recess injuries* are injuries resulting from accidents occurring during recess periods.

9. *Permanent disability* results from an injury or disease which does not cause death but results in the complete loss or loss of use of any member or any part of a member of the body, or any permanent impairment of functions of the body or part thereof. All permanent disabilities have been tabulated unless rejected for workers' compensation.

10. *Temporary disability* results from an injury or disease which does not cause death or permanent impairment but renders the injured person unable to perform a regularly established job during the entire time interval corresponding to the hours of a full regular shift. Temporary disabilities are only included in the tabulations if compensation commences within 6 months of the accident.

11. *Duration of temporary disability* refers to the number of calendar days lost rather than to the actual number of working days lost.

12. *Type of accident* is the event which directly resulted in the injury, i.e. the manner in which contact was made between the injured person and the object or substance causing the injury.

13. *Agency related to the accident* is the agency, i.e. working environment, production equipment, animal, etc., which, because of its hazardous nature or condition, precipitated the event designated as the accident.

14. *Bodily location of injury* refers to the part of the body injured. In most cases where there is a major and minor injury resulting from the accident, only the major location is coded. Multiple locations are coded only when there is a major injury to more than one location.

Classifications

15. *Industry classification.* The classification of industry is in accordance with the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification Vol. 1 - The Classification* (1983 Edition) (1201.0).

16. *Occupation classification.* The classification of occupation is in accordance with the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations Statistical Classification*

EXPLANATORY NOTES – continued

(ASCO) (First Edition) (1222.0). Differences between this and the former *Classification and Classified List of Occupations (CCLO)* are explained in *Information Paper – ASCO – Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (1221.0)* which was released on 10 April 1991.

17. *Agency and type of accident and bodily location of injury classifications.* The classifications of agency of accident, type of accident and bodily location of injury are based on the classifications recommended by the ILO.

18. *Nature of disease and nature of injury classifications.* The classifications of nature of disease and nature of injury are based on the *ninth revision (1975)* of the *World Health Organization's International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death*.

Data quality

19. In compiling the employment injuries statistics, the ABS employs a variety of quality control measures to ensure that the statistics are as reliable as possible. These measures include seeking further information where necessary from the Workers' Compensation Board or the Police Department, computer editing of data and checks on the aggregate statistical output for consistency and comparability.

20. Beyond what has been mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 4 above, there is an operational factor which reduces the coverage of employment injuries occurring in Queensland in a year. The ABS has a cut-off period for processing of 6 months after the end of the period to which the statistics refer. A special effort is made to ensure that all deaths which occurred during the year are included in the statistics, but in other cases the time taken for a claim to be accepted (or rejected) by the Board results in their exclusion from the annual statistics.

Comparison of data with previous years

21. From 1988–89 data were obtained from the Workers' Compensation Board on magnetic tape which had been derived from their processing system. Previously data had been obtained in paper format.

22. A significant change in the level of employment injuries reported occurred between 1987–88 and 1988–89. A significant, but unquantifiable proportion of this, can be attributed to an increase in the quality of coverage due to the receipt of data in electronic form. The true increase in employment injuries which occurred during this period can not be quantified.

23. Additionally an assessment by the Workers' Compensation Board raised concerns regarding the descriptive information relevant to the injuries reported for 1988–89 and 1989–90. For this reason data relating to 1988–89 and 1989–90 have not been generally released. Users who wish to access these data may approach the ABS who, after consultation with the users, may release the data.

24. When comparing 1990–91 data with data of any previous year it is thus essential for the reasons outlined above that extreme caution is taken.

The incidence of employment injuries

25. The incidence of employment injuries is the number of employment injuries expressed as a rate per 1,000 workers for an industry or occupation. Estimates were derived for persons employed in certain industries and occupations in Queensland by use of the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{number of injuries}}{\text{number of workers}} \times 1,000$$

26. Data on employed wage and salary earners which were obtained from the monthly labour force survey (*LFS*) and the employment, earnings and hours (*EEH*) survey, have been used as the basis for the calculation of the number of workers. These data were adjusted as far as possible to match the scope of the employment injuries data (see paragraphs 2–4 of the Explanatory Notes for an outline of the scope of the employment injuries statistics). This was achieved by deriving the proportion of non-Commonwealth government workers in each occupation and industry group from the *EEH* survey and applying these proportions to the *LFS* annual estimates.

Reliability of the estimates

27. The estimates from *LFS* and *EEH* survey are subject to sampling and non-sampling error. Non-sampling error can be introduced through non-response, inaccurate reporting by respondents, errors in collection and recording, data entry and processing. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum in the *LFS* by careful design and testing of the questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures. Both *LFS* data and employment injuries data are checked for consistency and accuracy, coding is carefully monitored and data are subjected to computer edits. Sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because data were obtained from a sample and not the entire population. One measure of the likely difference is the standard error.

28. The standard errors for the *LFS* estimates can be used to provide a measure of the sampling errors associated with the calculation of the incidence of injuries. One way of expressing the error for the rates is by calculating the relative standard errors (*RSEs*), which are the standard errors expressed as a percentage of the estimates.

29. Tables 13 and 14 present the relative standard errors for persons by broad industry and occupation categories. The implications of the *RSEs* are as follows: There are two chances in three that the true incidence rate is within the range $\text{Rate} \pm \text{RSE per cent} \times \text{Rate}$, and there are nineteen chances in twenty that the true incidence rate is in the range $\text{Rate} \pm 2 \times \text{RSE per cent} \times \text{Rate}$. Whilst the

EXPLANATORY NOTES – continued

Reliability of the estimates – continued

standard error increases as the size of the estimate increases, the relative standard error will decrease, so that the larger estimates are relatively more reliable than smaller ones. In the case of incidence, the size of the *RSE* is a function of the size of the labour force estimate of workers on which the incidence rate is based, not the size of the rate itself or the number of injuries (which is not subject to sampling error).

Example

30. The incidence of employment injuries in the construction industry is 68 and the *RSE* of this rate is 3.1 per cent. There are, therefore, two chances in three that the true rate is in the range:

$$68 \pm 3.1 \text{ per cent} \times 68$$

or 64.9 to 71.1

There are nineteen chances in twenty that the true rate is in the range:

$$68 \pm 2 \times 3.1 \text{ per cent} \times 68$$

or 63.8 to 72.2

Related publications

31. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Employment Injuries, Tasmania (6301.6) – latest issue: 1990–91 (\$10.50)

32. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (1101.0). The ABS also issues the *Publications Advice* (1105.0) on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. Both the *Catalogue* and the *Publications Advice* are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

—	Nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
n.a.	Not available